

## Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 NSC-05 /065 W

----- 017724

R 292155Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6674

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USMISSION NATO

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 32160

SHAPE FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, OCON, AWACS, MILI, FR

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR NATO AEW (AWACS) PROGRAM

REF: STATE 265681 DTG 281457Z OCT 76

1. POLCOUNSELOR AND EMBOFF PRESENTED TEXT OF AIDE-MEMOIRE ON AWACS PROGRAM TO PAGNIEZ (CHIEF, PACTS AND DISARMAMENT, QUAI D'ORSAY) ON OCTOBER 29. WE ARE SEEKING APPOINTMENT WITH HIBON (DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR TO MOD) TO MAKE SIMILAR APPROACH. MDA (EX-MAAG) WILL PROVIDE COPIES TO DELPECH'S STAFF.
2. PAGNIEZ READ AIDE-MEMOIRE CAREFULLY AND COMMENTED THAT IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING AWACS QUESTION WOULD COME UP AT DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING. EMBOFF CONFIRMED THIS AND SAID THAT EVEN THOUGH FRANCE NOT MEMBER OF DPC, U.S. WAS INTERESTED IN KEEPING FRENCH UP-TO-DATE ON AWACS DISCUSSIONS IN HOPES THAT THE FRENCH MAY DECIDE ULTIMATELY TO PARTICIPATE.

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3. PAGNIEZ EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND ADDED THAT THE

FRENCH POSITION HAD BEEN SET FORTH TO THE U.S. IN THE CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN DEFENSE MINISTER BOURGES AND FORMER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SCHLESINGER AND SUBSEQUENTLY BY M. DELPECH TO DR. CURRIE OF DDR&E. PAGNIEZ REITERATED FRENCH POSITION THAT BECAUSE OF TIGHT DEFENSE BUDGET, FRANCE WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE AWACS PROJECT, BUT WOULD NOT ANNOUNCE ITS POSITION PUBLICLY AND OPENLY SO AS NOT TO PREJUDICE OTHER NATIONS AGAINST THE SYSTEM. PAGNIEZ POINTED OUT ADDITIONALLY THAT THIS WAS ESSENTIALLY A QUESTION FOR THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AT WHICH POINT WE ASSURED HIM THAT WE WERE ALREADY SEEKING AN APPOINTMENT WITH HIBON.

4. WE WILL REPORT ANY SUBSTANTIVE OBSERVATIONS WHICH HIBON OR OTHER CONTACTS MAY SUBSEQUENTLY MAKE.  
RUSH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AWACS, AIR DEFENSE, WARNING SYSTEMS, AIDE MEMOIRE, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS  
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**Draft Date:** 29 OCT 1976  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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